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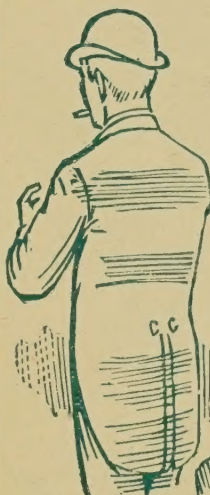
MAGAZINE.

DEVOTED TO THE PROFITABLE CULTURE OF FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES.

Vick Publishing Co. }
Fifty Cents Per Year.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., AUGUST, 1894.

{ Volume 17, No. 10.
New Series.



"To Remove Paint.

"Sit down on it before it is dry. (Texas Siftings.)

U. S. Department of Agriculture.

That's a good way---easy, too.
And another way is to do your
cleaning in the old fashioned way
with soap; the necessa-
ry rubbing takes off the
paint along with the dirt,
but this is very tiresome
work.

You ought to do your house-cleaning with
Pearline; that's the modern way---easiest
and most economical way,---takes away the
dirt easily and leaves the paint. Saves rub-
bing, saves work, saves time, saves whatev-
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on anything that water doesn't hurt.

Millions ^{NOW} _{USE} Pearline

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Any or all will flower in the house during the winter, or if planted out doors before frost will bloom in the spring. They are **perfectly hardy, and will stand the winter.** For full description see third page of cover.

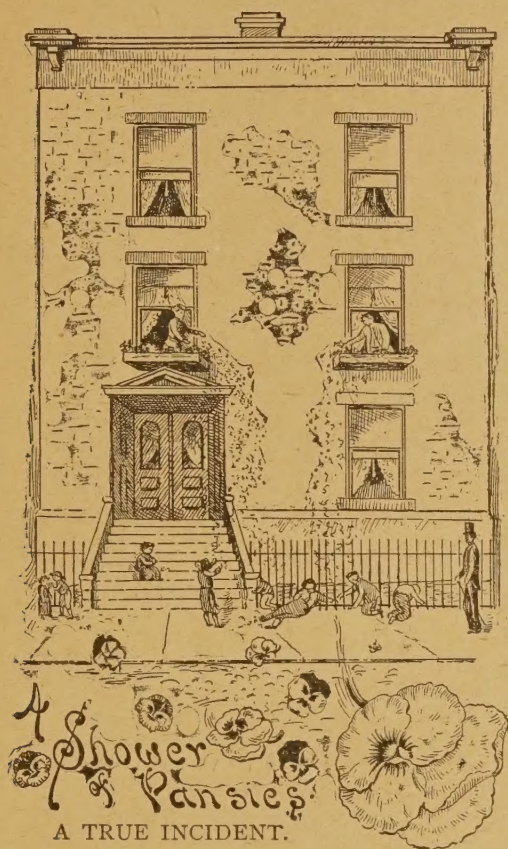
JAMES VICK'S SONS, Rochester, N. Y.

VICK'S MAGAZINE.

Vol. 17.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., AUGUST, 1894.

No. 10



IT was in Boston, and just at the sunset hour, in the spring of 1888. As I turned the corner rattling, rumbling, rushing Washington street was left behind. The evening was simply perfect. The sky was now all aglow with a delicate sea-shell pink, the air was deliciously balmy, and Franklin square, with its carpet of green, and the sparkling fountain playing under the leafy trees, seemed a vision of delight to my town-wearied eyes. I was always glad to reach this particular point in my walk, for I was fortunate enough to have a real true friend that lived just there on the corner.

To be sure there never was any appointment between us, and yet I always felt confident that when I reached that particular side gate I should surely find my friend awaiting me. No matter what the day had been, I never doubted for an instant but what the kind, sympathetic eyes of my friend would beam an unmistakable welcome. I never knew how much I looked forward to this meeting, and how much the kind eyes really said to me, until one night I missed my friend. But tonight I was not disappointed, and, according to custom, we walked slowly along until we came to the end of the block near the New England Conservatory of Music, and as nothing could ever induce Jack to be unfaithful to the members of his household and go beyond this limit, he stopped, looked up at me in such a pathetic, pleading way that I found it quite impossible to resist the unspoken entreaty to stay a bit longer.

The park was quite deserted at this hour. I saw only groups of dainty children playing near their nurses, so we turned back, and as I seated myself on a comfortable bench Jack stretched himself at my feet with his head between his paws, looking up at me with contented eyes. I opened a volume of poems, but finding it impossible to read I closed the book

and fell to admiring the pretty window-garden of hanging vines and pansies at the second floor windows of the brown stone mansion just across from me. I knew that this was the residence of Mr. Ditson, and that for some time he had been very ill, and so I rejoiced to see him in the large easy chair at the window. A sweet faced woman was arranging the pillows and draping the curtains farther back; then she leaned far out and gathered a few pansies. I noticed that one fell from her fingers. At this moment a group of little street children came along and the falling pansy did not escape their sharp eyes. The tiniest tot of all reached through the iron railing which separated the strip of green from the sidewalk and secured the prize with a cry of delight. Her little face was wreathed with smiles as she held it up and cried, "See, pretty, pretty flower!" Then she grudgingly and anxiously watched it pass from one to another, and when it came back she tenderly held it in the hollow of her hand while the other little ones looked wistfully up at the window and saw the gentleman and lady watching them with smiling interest.

The gentleman said something, then the lady broke off a pansy and held it far out. Down toward a score of outstretched hands it softly floated until it was triumphantly seized by the tallest, who was standing on tiptoe and almost lost his balance, at which they all burst into a merry laugh. By this time their number was greatly increased, and when another great royal purple pansy came fluttering down on the other side there was a great scramble after it. The quiet little boy at the corner caught this one. Then there came a perfect shower of pansies, purple, yellow, black and white, falling in all directions. The children clapped their hands and shouted with delight; now here, now there, and away they went after them in a scramble. The low railing was something of an obstacle, but after all not very much, for wherever a pansy fell there was sure to be a dozen little ones. When the shower ceased every child was the happy possessor of at least one, and a few even more fortunate. The two faces up at the window smiled a bright "good bye" and the window was closed. The little ones were in high spirits as they eagerly examined and compared their treasures.

"Oh, Jimmy, ain't that a whopper?" cried the little fat boy.

"Oh, my, this yaller one is jes' be-oo-te-ful!" piped up the thin little girl.

"Mine is the prettiest, mine is the prettiest!" shouted the gay little girl with black bobbing curls as she wildly skipped down the street.

"No, 'taint nuther; this black 'un beats the whole lot on 'um," protested the red headed boy.

And by this time they were far down the street and out of hearing.

The quiet little fellow was all alone and coming across my way, so I called out: "Won't you come here and let me see your pretty flowers?"

He came and held them up, a rich purple and two pure white ones.

"What are you going to do with your flowers?"

"I'll give them to Mother."

"And does she love flowers?" I asked.

To my astonishment the blue eyes filled with tears. The manly little face turned aside and from the trembling lips I caught the low spoken words: "Yes, but Mother's dead,—died yesterday."

I stooped to pick up my book that had just fallen,—I could not see it at first—and when I looked up Jack had risen to his feet, and with kind, sympathetic eyes was following the little figure that was then at the far end of the park.

IVAH M. DUNKLEE.

THE DAHLIA.

THE dahlia is considered by most persons to be the grandest autumn flower that we have, and it certainly is during the months of September and October, when all other flowers are fading. It is one of the most popular amateur flowers in cultivation at the present day, and some twenty-five years ago it was a very popular florist's flower, and at that time dahlia shows or exhibitions were annually held in the principal cities. After a time, however, the dahlia became somewhat neglected, but within the past few years it has regained considerable



SHOW DAHLIA.

of its lost popularity and now there are but very few gardens in which some plants may not be found during their proper season. Indeed, there are some places where the dahlia is the only floral occupant. The genus comprises but a few species, and all of them are natives of the mountains of Mexico whose range is from 5,000 to 10,000 feet above the level of the sea. The history of the introduction of the dahlia is quite obscure, but the first species known to Europeans was *D. varabilis*, or *superflua*, and this was discovered in Mexico by Baron Humboldt in 1789, and was sent by him to Professor Cavanille of the Botanic Gardens, Madrid, Spain, who gave the genus the name of dahlia in honor of the Swedish professor Dahl. This species at first produced only single flowers, but most, if not all of the varieties in cultivation at the present day have been raised from it. At first it was cultivated for its tubers only, which were thought to be edible, and it was not until 1814 that its flowers attracted the attention of florists, and from that time to the present day the improvement has been constant, and every year plants are produced from seed which surpasses their predecessors in some respects.

In 1802 *Dahlia coccinea* was introduced from France and for many years these two species and their varieties were the only dahlias known in English gardens, although a few other species were introduced from time to time, but as they were more tender and did not hybridize with the others, were eventually lost. Most of them, however, have been re-introduced from Mexico within the past few years, together with several other species, so that now we have ten or twelve species, besides the innumerable varieties of *D. superflua* and *D. coccinea*.

As this paper is written for the benefit of amateur cultivators I propose to adopt the clas-

sification of our principal florists and divide them into four classes, viz: Show or fancy, dwarf or bedding, pompon or bouquet, and the single flowering.

The show dahlias grow from three to five feet in height and embrace all those fine varieties which are suitable for exhibition purposes. Their flowers are of fine form and color and range from three to five inches in diameter. Those varieties that produce striped, mottled or spotted flowers are termed fancy and are very beautiful.

The dwarf or bedding dahlias grow about eighteen inches in height and form a very compact bush covering considerable space, and so are desirable for bedding or massing.

The pompon or bouquet dahlias grow from three to five feet in height, forming compact plants. The leaves are quite small and the flowers are from one to two inches in diameter.

The single dahlias grow from three to five feet in height, and as the name indicates, the flowers are single. They vary in size from three to five inches in diameter, and are borne on long graceful stems, and vary in color from deep crimson to pure white, including intermediate shades. They are very desirable for cut flower purposes, as they can be used in many places where large double flowers would be entirely out of place.

To grow the dahlia to perfection it should be given a very deep, well enriched soil, as it is a rapid grower and very gross feeder. It also requires an open, sunny situation, and whether the plants are grown in beds or borders they must be given sufficient space in which to properly develop themselves—about three and a half



DWARF DAHLIA.

feet apart—and should be supported by stout stakes, to which they should be properly tied as growth advances. Whether the plants are obtained from seed, cuttings or a division of the older tubers, the treatment will be the same, and they should not be planted out until the weather becomes warm and settled, which in this vicinity is about the middle of May. During the summer it is advisable to stir the ground around the plants freely, and where fine flowers are desired it is well to give occasional thorough watering during seasons of drought.

As soon as the foliage has been destroyed by the frost the plants should be cut down to within six inches of the ground, and a week afterwards the tubers carefully lifted and exposed to the air for a few hours and then put in boxes or barrels and placed in a dry cellar for the winter. Any cellar in which potatoes are placed for the winter will answer for dahlias, providing the tubers are in boxes or barrels.

Propagation is effected by dividing the tubers of the old plants, also by cuttings of the young shoots, and they can be readily raised from seed. For amateurs, division of the tubers will more than supply their need, as each old plant will divide into three or more, and this operation is best performed when the plants are being put outside in May. Plants can also be raised from cuttings rooted in February and grown on in pots until they are planted out in May. In order to obtain the cuttings the tubers should be placed in pots or boxes early in January and given a warm, sunny situation in a greenhouse where a temperature of from 55° to 60° is maintained. From seed new varieties are obtained. Of the many plants obtained in this way a few may produce first-class flowers, some fair, and a great portion will prove utterly worthless; yet many persons take great pleasure in watching the development of a plant from seed to its period of bloom. Dahlia seed should be sown very early in the spring in a well drained pot or pan filled with light loamy soil. Sow thinly, cover slightly, and place in a warm, moist situation as close to the glass as possible. As soon as the young plants are well up and large enough to handle they should be transplanted into other pans or boxes similarly prepared, placed about two inches apart, or else placed singly into two-inch pots, and grown on as carefully as possible until it is time to plant them outside.

CHAS. E. PARNELL.



POMPON DAHLIA.

No one can be truly brave who is not trying to be truly good.

HALF-HARDY, OR POT SHRUBS.

THOSE who have not accommodations for wintering tender plants should not imagine that they must do without flowers altogether. Some of the most lovely blossoms we have are borne on what are known as half-hardy, or pot shrubs, and no class of plants will furnish so much enjoyment in return for so little care as these. One of the most beautiful objects I ever saw was a large plant of *Ardisia crenulata*. A friend of mine had it in the window of her room summer and winter for many years. Being evergreen, and covered the year round with either white flowers or clusters of vermilion colored berries, and sometimes with both, it was always highly ornamental and beautiful. The oleanders are too well known to need description, but this magnificent class of plants has been shamefully neglected. The flowers possess a fragrance almost rivaling the rose, and a well grown specimen in bloom is an object of great beauty. No plants are easier to manage, as they succeed well in any soil if it is well watered. They are almost hardy, too, and may be kept in the house anywhere in winter.

Grevillea robusta, or Australian silk oak, is a

splendid ferny-leaved evergreen plant, which makes a magnificent pot plant for all sorts of decorative purposes. In conjunction with palms or ferns, or in an ordinary collection of house plants, it is at once striking and graceful. It is well adapted to withstand the dust and heat of living-rooms, and is quite hardy. Among the species of jasmine are found some of the loveliest pot shrubs in cultivation. The Arabian jasmine, or Sambac variety, is the most deliciously fragrant of all. The flowers are single white, and the plant blooms all the year round. The "Grand Duke" is similar to this, only its flowers are very double and oppressively sweet. Even small plants bear a profusion of blossoms, one of which will scent a whole room. Jassamines are all hardy here at the South. Doubtless almost every one has either read or heard of the famous Southern yellow jessamine. It grows wild here in the greatest profusion. I am convinced that it would succeed finely in the North if protected in winter. A well grown specimen would create admiration anywhere, and all who love flowers should try their success in cultivating this beautiful wild climber.

PRUDENCE PLAIN.

Winsboro, S. C.

One of the most wretched men in the world is the one who cannot respect himself.

WHILE SHRUBS ARE GROWING.

IN starting a new home in almost any locality it is impossible to get trees and shrubs to be very ornamental the first year. While young plants are rooting we cannot expect a rapid upward growth, or many blossoms. Hence the first year is always discouraging. I am a lover of the hardy shrubs,—lilacs, syringas, spiræas, roses, etc., but while they are taking their time to grow I sow plenty of annuals. The newer varieties of phlox Drummondii are very beautiful, and such constant bloomers. A bed of pansies will soon reward one for the care spent upon it. Pansies are "high livers," so see that they are well fertilized and watered. Double petunias, grown from seed, I have not yet tried, but I am rooting some from cuttings. Single petunias we have, all colors, banks of them in the yard and outside by the sidewalk. The tiny green and bronze humming-birds are fond of them. I sit on the porch in the evening and watch the little fellows dart in and out among the gay blossoms, helping themselves to the sweetness and fragrance of my yard without so much as saying "by your leave," yet paying me with flashes of beauty and the musical whirr of small wings.

Not being able to plant a permanent hedge this year I sowed sweet peas for that purpose near a wire fence. They are now a mass of blooms, and have furnished cut flowers for the "art room" at our social, for church decoration, and for bouquets for my friends and the strangers within our midst who have no gardens. The roses that will in time cover our verandas are only a foot or two high; but going up the trellis with great speed are the nasturtiums and the cobaea. The nasturtiums are blooming, and are in all shades from dark, velvety crimson to pale straw color, and some of them are splashed with brown or have brown throats.

My friend over the way, who has a lawn and a conservatory, said to me, "I never plant annuals now; I have no room for them, and I do not care for them." I may not have room for them when my shrubs and perennials grow, but I am sure I shall always care for them. For the pleasure they have given me, and the happiness they may give others,—for a few dimes well invested in seeds will make any little home bright and sweet—I will sing the praises of annuals.

S. ROSELLA KELLEY.

FARMING ON MEXICAN TABLELANDS.

THE visitor to Mexico expects to see nothing but tropical plants growing in profusion all over this vast country, but in reality on the extensive plateaux which extend from the 60th to 30th degrees of north latitude nothing but the familiar plants of the Old World and those of the United States are cultivated to any extent. Nowhere on these elevated farms does one find tropical plants, except possibly the maguey and cactus, and these are grown for breeding the cochineal. The extensive tablelands are from five to eight thousand feet above the level of the sea, and a most diversified sort of farming is carried on here. Most of the farms or estates grow wheat on a much larger scale than in Europe, and nearly all of the farms are supplied with water by artificial means. Lakes located high up among the mountains are dammed in, and the water conducted to the fields by means of ditches and expensive aqueducts. When the wheat is sown in November the water is admitted to the furrows, and after that water is supplied twice during the winter, twice in spring and if necessary the third time just at the ripening period in May or June. Irrigation has really progressed more rapidly in these tablelands than in many parts of the United States.

Oats are not cultivated in these regions at all, nor does rye receive any particular attention, but barley is quite a favorite grain next to wheat. The inhabitants of the towns and cities of Mexico are great bread eaters, and the flour made on the farms from the wheat is readily sold at the home markets. The different varieties of maize are cultivated all over the country, and especially on the farms of the high plateaux. Sometimes these crops are killed by the cold, and then barley is planted in the rainy season to take the place of the poor crops. Barley is used largely for feeding purposes, but the brewing business is rapidly increasing in the country and the demand for this business is also growing. Beans are favorite summer crops, and also to a more or less extent lentils, potatoes, and sweet potatoes.

In short the agriculture on these tablelands is so similar to that in parts of Europe and the United States that an emigrant might easily imagine himself on his own farm at home in his native land. Everything indicates the temperate zone, the orchards, corn-fields, meadows, and market-gardens. But it does not take long to get out of this temperate zone into one that is purely tropical in its appearance. After crossing the mountain ridges that encircle the high plateaux and descending into some of the fertile valleys either on the east or west coast, the vegetation takes on a more luxuriant charac-

ter. The grass is taller, the trees large and full, and the creeping vines and underbrush so thickly matted together that it is often hard to wade through them. Flowers of the most brilliant hues crowd up from every swamp and plain. On the fertile farms the products have also changed. Instead of the fruits and vegetables of the temperate zone one sees gardens and fields of tobacco, rice, cotton, indigo, coffee, cocoa, vanilla, manico, sugar cane, and the banana. The farm work and the whole character of the agriculture is different here and entirely foreign to the ideas of farmers living in temperate zones.

But to return to the tablelands. The methods of farming here are both primitive and advanced. The farmers have utilized the best methods for irrigating their fields, but they cultivate the soil and harvest the crops with the most primitive farm implements and machines. The soil is rarely, if ever, manured, although this is partly due to its wonderful richness in mineral elements which decompose when exposed to the sun and weather. Corn has been grown on some of these fields for over a century and still the character of the land is good and productive. In time, however, the fertility must give out and the farmers will be forced to study the science of retaining and adding to the fertility of the land by means of artificial applications of manures. The volcanoes have spread over parts of the country thick stratas of ashes and lava, which, strange to say, nourish the plants greatly when gradually decomposed by the air and water. The manures from the horse and cattle stables are heaped up in dry places, and burned in the spring as rubbish—a sight that would pain a northern farmer. Cattle and horses are generally turned loose on the fields to find food in the grass in the rainy season and during the rest of the year they subsist on dry chopped straw, mixed with maize stalks. Only a little grain is fed to them. The old fashioned Roman plow is still used here, and the thorn-bush takes the place of the harrow. Most of the large farms are owned by wealthy gentlemen who get the work performed by day laborers who live on the estate and serve voluntarily for so much a week. They receive a certain amount of maize and pulque, as well as money, for their work at the end of each week. During harvest time many Indians are working on the farms, who come up with their tools and provisions, accompanied by a captain appointed by the village alcalde. Indian women then work in the field as laboriously as the men, and earn nearly as much wages.

Toluca, Mexico.

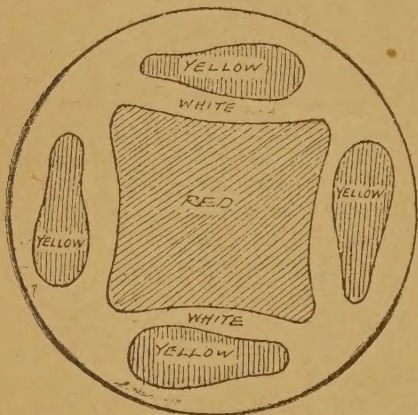
G. E. W.

CUTTINGS THIS MONTH.—This month, while the soil is warm, a great many plants can be grown from cuttings in the open ground. Geraniums, heliotropes, fuschias, coleus, achyrantes, abutilons, and most soft wooded flowering plants, as well as many kinds of flowering shrubs, can be propagated by small cuttings of the green wood with a leaf or two left on. Make them from two to three inches long and insert half their length in the soil, water them and then shade with a paper for a day or two during the hottest hours, leaving it off in the early morning and after five o'clock in the evening. Accustom them to the full sunshine as soon as they will stand it.

FLOWERS IN NEW YORK.

THOUSANDS of those who go spinning along the magnificent Central Park drive-ways admire the city flower beds in a general way, without giving a thought to the labor and care required for their maintenance. They look at the effect but do not inquire for the details. There are but few of these flower plots in Central Park. It is the very sensible policy of the Park Superintendent to do without flower beds except near buildings. They lend an artificial appearance to landscapes, and for this reason are not extensively used in Central Park. The ruling idea is the production of a subdued effect, and for this reason no glaring masses of color are used.

The Park Department employs twenty-five gardeners the year round, whose duty it is to keep the shrubbery in order. These men are merely employed to look after the proper pruning and preservation of the plants and flowers. In addition to these, fifty or sixty laborers are employed throughout the summer months in mowing, weeding and carting away rubbish.



TULIP BED AT MADISON SQUARE.

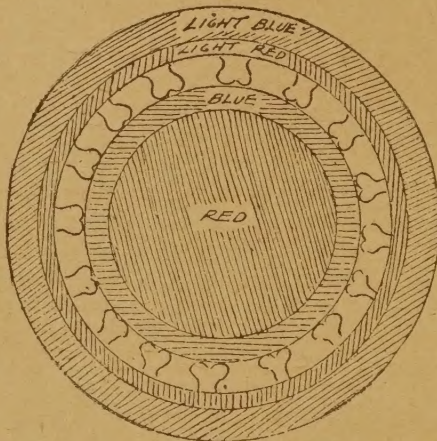
At 160th Street and Fifth Avenue there are eighteen hothouses, in which are propagated all the plants which beautify the flower beds every spring. Not only are the hothouse productions transplanted to the flower beds, but flowers, such as violets, forget-me-nots, daisies, pansies and larkspurs, are scattered about the Park in beautiful confusion. Hardy flowering-plants are also set about the Park. These require very little care, comparatively speaking, and add a great deal to the attractiveness of the grounds; along the eastern driveway in particular their glorious effect is seen to great advantage throughout the summer months. Here and there in the dark greenery can be seen the snowlike drifts of white phlox.

THE SHRUBBERY.

Hundreds of varieties of shrubs are used in the work of making the Park a thing of beauty. Lilac, azalea, snowball, spirea, golden bell, and the beautiful Japanese quince, with its flaming red flowers, are some of them. As everybody who has visited Central Park knows, it requires a special permit to walk on the grass in many of the more beautiful spots. These permits have been abused to such an extent that Superintendent Parsons has grown very cautious regarding their issue. The greatest damage was done by amateur collectors, who insisted upon carrying away specimens of every plant and shrub they took a fancy to, just as they would in the coun-

try. It was no uncommon thing for parties of school-girl enthusiasts to carry away entire branches of trees. In some cases whole shrubs were pulled up by the roots and taken away. Sketching parties are sometimes given permits, but they seldom abuse them.

The Central Park pools are set with white water lilies. Some of the varieties are so delicate that they cannot stand a moderate temperature. The common white water lily, although a home product, is one of the loveliest varieties of the plant. The tropical specimens are, of



TULIP BED AT UNION SQUARE.

course, the most delicate. In the pool at 102d Street and Fifth Avenue may be seen, later on, the splendid Nile lotus, which grows anywhere but on the Nile, and the sweet yellow lily, which is extremely common on that river. Very few visitors to the pool care a rap about where the lilies come from. Other specimens of marine flora in the pool are from Central Africa and Madagascar. Up to May 1st these lilies were kept in the hothouses, flourishing in a warm temperature, and the raw weather during May has set them back considerably.

FLOWER BED DESIGNS.

More than 600,000 plants are set out in the city parks every year. They comprise tulips, begonias, crocuses, pansies, forget-me-nots, geraniums, centaureas, and many other gay blooming flowers. The designs for the flower beds in the public parks are made out by the landscape architect, and are subject to the approval of the superintendent. These plans or designs are turned over to the gardener, who does the rest with his little spade and trowel. There are, all told, about three dozen of these designs. They are changed from season to season to different parts of the city, until they have outlived their novelty, when they are finally called in.

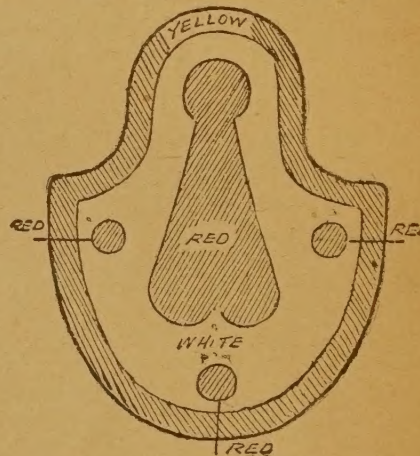
The tulip beds in Union and Madison Squares were ablaze with red, white and yellow blooms, although they thrust their small green cones out of the ground before the snow quit flying. Although tulips are principally used in the early make up of park flower beds there are many other kinds of flowers that display their beauties in the public squares. Begonias look especially striking. After the tulips bloomed the gardeners planted the more delicate pansies and forget-me-nots. The foregoing plants play star parts in flower beds. There is always a more or less conspicuous border formed of alternanthera and acalypha. In several of the larger floral plots

the huge leaved banana plant lends a tropical appearance to the scenery.

UNION AND HERALD SQUARES.

The principal tulip bed in Union Square consisted of an outer ring of light blue, a ring of pink, with an inner circle of scrolled white and yellow; then an inner circle of deep blue, with a center of deep red. The principal plot at Madison Square was not so pretentious. It consisted of a simple circle, with a central square that had the appearance of being knocked out of joint. Around the circle were four large human footprints.

"We spared no endeavor to make the park more than ever attractive this season," said Superintendent Parsons. "We were somewhat handicapped by the late spring, but with the warm weather the flowers burst into bloom in a jiffy. It matters but little how you fix a tulip bed as far as form goes; it is the arrangement of color that counts. The designs must of necessity be large, owing to the nature of the flower. For this reason we generally confine ourselves to shields, crescents and circles."



TULIP BED AT ARSENAL.

After blossoming about one hundred thousand tulip bulbs are taken up and placed in the ground near the hothouses for preservation.

New York, July 16, 1894.

X.

THE CABBAGE MAGGOT.—Extensive depredations of this maggot are reported the present summer by the market gardeners of Long Island. The early cabbages suffered very severely from them, while the late planted varieties are almost entirely free. It has lately been learned that the insect lives and breeds on the charlock or wild mustard and other plants of the mustard family, in the absence of cabbage plants. The omission to grow a crop of cabbages will not, therefore, ensure a riddance of the insect the following year, unless at the same time the ground has been kept free from weeds, especially those of the mustard tribe. One of the best means of preventing the attack of the insect, which lays its eggs on the young plants soon after transplanting, is to wind a bit of tissue paper around each plant. But this is expensive except in private garden operations on a small scale. A number of substances have been used for the purpose of killing the maggots, but none are really satisfactory. Prof. Slingerland, of the Cornell Experiment station, is at work on this problem. The insect from which the maggot comes has until lately been thought to be *Anthomyia brassicae*, but lately it has been learned that this is a mistake, and it is doubtful if the insect which bears this name is in this country. The true name is now said to be *Phorbia floccosa*.

SPINACH.

MARKET gardeners find spinach usually a valuable crop and are careful to make proper preparations for it and to get it in at the right time. In the family kitchen garden it is very generally neglected, not that it is not appreciated, but probably because the time of seed sowing for spring use comes at a season of the year when the gathering of crops generally is more timely than planting. In this locality spinach seed is sown in September, a time when it would naturally be neglected except by the professional gardeners. However, the heatfulness of this vegetable and the fact that it is almost the first to be used in the spring are reasons why it should have more attention by all who have gardens. To raise a good crop of spinach which will be tender and tasty, the soil should be rich and the food elements available for the plants. If stable manure is used it should be well rotted and ready for assimilation. The ground should be plowed or dug deep, working in the manure, and the surface needs to be finely pulverized. Sow the seed in rows twelve to fifteen inches apart and thick in the rows, giving a chance to thin out the crop and yet leave the plants standing regularly all over the ground. The thinning should commence when the plants have made about four leaves, letting those remaining be from one to two inches apart. The young plants can be used for the table and the thinning should continue until the crop stands even over the ground—the plants of the prickly sort about five or six inches apart and those of the round-leaved variety about eight inches apart. In this region market gardeners calculate to sow the seed about the 10th of September, and in cool seasons this appears to be a very suitable time, the plants coming on about right for the winter, but when it happens that the weather is warm during September the plants become too large, requiring the use of the crop mostly in the fall, an expedient which cannot usually be carried out. On the whole it is best to sow twice—one portion of the crop during the early part of September and the other near the end of the month. Of course in more southern and warmer localities the seeding can be longer delayed. As the seed is sown and the rows covered they should be trodden down, walking along on them, in order to compress the soil about the seeds and insure them to some extent from drying out, as is sometimes the case when this operation is omitted and the weather remains dry. Some use a heavy roller over the rows, and if the weather should promise to continue dry it is a good plan to water the rows. As soon as the plants appear above ground hoeing should commence, for the value of the crop depends upon a steady and regular growth, and this it could not have if weeds were allowed to interfere with it or if the ground was not kept porous and mellow by frequent stirring. Here and farther north it is necessary to protect spinach during winter, but at the south it stands without covering. Protection is given by means of leaves or straw. Poles, or tree branches, or brush of some kind is laid along the rows and then a good covering of leaves or straw laid on. Without the brush underneath the covering is apt to lie too close upon the plants, causing

them to smother and rot. The covering is not put on until the time of hard freezing and it is removed in the spring as soon as the heaviest frosts are past.

The Round-leaved variety is the favorite kind, and where it will stand the winters, or where it can be protected, it is the one which is preferred. The prickly spinach is hardier than the round-leaved, and therefore is often employed on this account. The variety called Thick-leaved grows somewhat larger than the Round-leaved, and is coming largely into use. It will probably stand longer in the spring without running to seed, and this is sometimes an advantage. The New Zealand variety is particularly valuable for its resistance to drought, and in dry regions it is probably more desirable than the other sorts. It is a very strong grower, and the plants must be thinned out to stand from one to two feet apart.

In the spring spinach is a very grateful and healthful article of diet, and it deserves the necessary attention in autumn to secure a plentiful supply at the proper season.

MOTHERLY PLANTS.

WE often express astonishment and marvel at the well constructed and daintily woven birds' nests which we find hidden away in the branches of some shrub or tree. The children are ever eager to have a peep at the nest and the wee eggs or nestlings within it. Did you ever think what beautiful nests many plants weave for their children? Last fall, while following the fashion now in vogue of making all sorts of pretty novelties from the silky appendage of the seed of a species of milk-weed, I thought what a motherly, loving plant the milk-weed is. The pod is rough outside, and coarse looking, but how wonderfully pretty it is within, with its glossy, satin-like lining. What a dainty network of tissue between the outside and the inside linings, forming luxuriant upholstery,—a cushioned couch where the seeds lie and grow. How compactly and orderly they are arranged. We take a pod in our hands and open it carefully, when lo, and behold! the seeds, like little birds frightened, unfold their wings and fly away. The mother plant has forethought; she knows that it would never do to have the seeds all stay at home and make no effort for self-subsistence, so she gives each seed charming little wings with which to fly out into the world and gain a hold upon life for themselves. When the seeds wake up, and are ready to leave home, the wind comes along and away they fly. Each one settles down, coming nearer and nearer to the soil, until, hidden away in the grass, or under a leaf, it patiently awaits the time of its unfolding.

MRS. W. A. KELLERMAN.

VICK'S CAPRICE ROSE.

TOO little has been said by the originator in favor of this splendid rose, and I, for one, want to add my experience with it.

It is certainly the handsomest and best of all the roses I have grown, and is fully as hardy as any garden rose. At my home the thermometer often goes down to 30° below zero in winter, and this rose has never had more than a little litter or straw thrown over it.

In the spring it has always been found to be alive at least two-thirds the length of its stalks and is invariably the first one of my roses to show flower buds.

The blossoms are very full and double, so much so that the center is completely hidden—the inner petals curving over it.

The fragrance is wonderfully sweet and delicate, resembling somewhat the "Bon Silene." The flowers are borne singly on long stems and for that reason are much better for cutting, as no buds are sacrificed.

It is a very free bloomer, a small bush often showing fifty blossoms and buds. When I

bought mine some years ago, it was a very small plant, perhaps six inches tall. I planted it out about the first of May and in June I counted six buds on it. I removed all but two, as I did not want to weaken the tiny plant by too many flowers. These opened and were a great surprise to me, though I had expected something fine. The bush then grew nicely all summer and in August several more buds appeared, which bloomed in September. Since then, when the June flowering is over, I cut the bush back and the new growth is then ready for fall flowering. Some years I have had occasional blossoms on the bush all summer.

It is amusing to see people when they see "Vick's Caprice" for the first time. They go into raptures over it—the lovely soft pink color, striped with carmine and white, the beautiful form both in bud and full blown rose, the lovely fragrance, and its free blooming qualities—all call for words of praise.

Had some dealers originated it and put it on the market, I am sure that by this time they would be making affidavit that it bore roses of pure gold studded with diamonds. It is just such a gem, I admit, but in more convenient form for flower lovers' use.

BERNICE BAKER.



Why Was It

that Ayer's Sarsaparilla, out of the great number of similar preparations manufactured throughout the world, was the only medicine of the kind admitted at the **World's Fair, Chicago?** And why was it that, in spite of the united efforts of the manufacturers of other preparations, the decision of the World's Fair Directors was not reversed?

BECAUSE

According to RULE 15—"Articles that are in any way dangerous or offensive, also patent medicines, nostrums, and empirical preparations, whose ingredients are concealed, will not be admitted to the Exposition," and, therefore—

Because Ayer's Sarsaparilla is not a patent medicine, not a nostrum, and not a secret preparation.

Because its proprietors had nothing to conceal when questioned as to the formula from which it is compounded.

Because it is all that it is claimed to be—a Compound Concentrated Extract of Sarsaparilla, and in every sense, worthy the indorsement of this most important committee, called together for passing upon the manufactured products of the entire world.

Ayer's The Only Sarsaparilla

Admitted for Exhibition

AT THE WORLD'S FAIR

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Letter Box.

In this department we shall be pleased to answer any questions relating to Flowers, Vegetables and Plants, or to publish the experiences of our readers. JAMES VICK

Lady Washington Geranium.

I saw in your September Magazine that you would like to know if any of your readers have had success in raising the large flowered pelargonium or Lady Washington as window plants. I had one last summer and set it in the garden. It grew to be a very large bushy plant, but did not blossom. The first of October I took it up, took off some slips and then put it in the cellar. One of the slips lived and is in blossom now. It is eighteen inches high, in a six inch pot. I treated it the same as my other plants. It is a beauty.

Clyde, N. Y.

Miss M. E. P.

November Flowering Shrubs.

I would say to Mrs. W. W. P., of Astoria, Oregon, that the scarlet flowering shrub she saw in Western Pennsylvania last November was no doubt the black alder or winter berry *Ilex verticillata*, and what she mistook for flowers were red berries. She describes the shrub, its habitat, color, etc., quite closely, and from a car window her mistake would be easily made. Gray and Wood know nothing of such a plant as she thought she saw, and a scarlet flowering shrub blooming in November would be known to everyone. I will send her seeds freely if she still wishes to grow it, as soon as they are ripe.

Canaseraga, N. Y.

E. S. GILBERT.

The Digitalis.

Could fresh seed of the foxglove be always procured and sown at once, growers would be more successful than they are now. A lady in Rhode Island wrote me she had sent for seed again and again, and failed, but fresh seed from my plants sown as soon as she got them grew, and now she has lots of flowers. The foxglove likes the shade of trees pretty well, in a place shady enough to make grass weak and the god thin it will apparently be perennial without the least care; the self-sown seedlings taking the place of the old ones without a break. Here is a little nook with a thick wall of hemlock on the west, a spreading horse chestnut to the south, and honey locusts toward the east; and here for a dozen years the foxgloves have grown, scarcely seeing the sky except to the north, without care or culture. In the shade the flowers last longer and the color is deeper; the full sun fades them somewhat and the spike runs its course more rapidly.

E. S. GILBERT.

Scarlet-Flowered Bog Plant.

I think the plant referred to by Mrs. W. W. P., Astoria, Ore., in VICK'S MAGAZINE for June, 1894, is *Dianthera americana*. I have had one for the past ten years. It answers her description in every particular, except the flowers are in small spikes, but so closely compacted that one would not observe this at a distance. It grows about three feet high, freely branching, and with little foliage. It commences to bloom in June and in October and November is perfectly covered with a mass of showy scarlet spikes. The flowers remain perfect for a long time. The shrub is found along streams and the edges of marshes in Pennsylvania and New York, and while I think perfectly hardy yet I have wintered mine in the cellar. Last fall it was admired by many and was one mass of bloom. It is free from insect pests and will stand lots of neglect, its only requirement being plenty of water. I have not found it in any catalogue and am surprised that it has not been introduced to general cultivation.

Fond du Lac, Wis.

Mrs. D. W. C. P.

Begonias.

Will you please mention in August Magazine the proper treatment for begonias. A friend presented me with different varieties. I have not experience enough to know the proper care for them. Have kept them so far in the house in the window, take them out every evening to sprinkle them thoroughly. Now do I keep them too wet? A lady friend of mine says they ought to be kept dry. Will they do better in the open air? Please mention all about them and also about fuchsias.

New Point, Ind.

Mrs. H. H. S.

Our enquirer is getting the needed experience. Begonias are not difficult plants to care for. Probably during the hot weather they are not

given too much water. At the beginning of next month it may be well to shift the plants into pots a size larger and give some fresh soil. Fuchsias want a shady place in summer and plenty of water, but give less water as the weather becomes cooler.

Brown Rot of Plums.

I have a fine plum tree on my lot, thrifty and loaded with fruit. The fruit is purple when ripe and in shape like a Gage. But they rot—beginning now until a few only remain. The rot moulds soon. What can I do to prevent them rotting on the tree? An answer will greatly oblige.

Centre Hall, Pa.

S. H. E.

The brown rot of the plum and cherry bears the scientific name of *Monilia fructigena*. To combat this fungus successfully all the decayed fruit, as soon as it appears, should be picked and burned. Before the blossoms open in the spring spray the tree with diluted Bordeaux mixture or the ammoniacal solution of copper carbonate. As soon as the fruit is formed spray again with the same mixture and about twice later at intervals of ten days. At the first and second sprayings after the fruit is formed paris green can be added to the mixture to destroy curculio.

Smut on Corn.

Will you please tell me what causes smut on corn and how it can be prevented? Is it contagious and will it spread to a field of corn near it? Is it harmful to plant corn year after year in the same place?

Carlisle, Pa.

K. L. S.

The smut fungus, like all other fungi, is distributed by spores floating in the air, and in this manner will pass from affected plants to others even at a considerable distance. Facts indicate that smut spores will remain over winter in the soil and that land which has borne smutty corn is capable of producing the disease in succeeding corn crops. A rotation is therefore desirable. This conclusion is pretty well settled about corn smut, although there is much in regard to this fungus that is not yet understood. One other practice ought also to be adopted, which is to cut off and destroy by burning all the smut balls as soon as they appear, or in an early stage of their growth.

Starting Callas.

I would like some information about starting my callas. When and how?

Wilmette, Ill.

Mrs. J. A.

Calla tubers which have been kept dry during summer can be potted about the first of September in a light, rich soil, or one composed of equal parts of loam, leaf-mold and well rotted manure; a small portion of sand can be added to keep the whole porous. Mix all well together. A five or six inch pot is a good size for the purpose. Give a good watering as soon as potted, and set away in a light, airy place, but afterwards give water only sufficiently to maintain a moderate moisture in the soil, and wait until growth commences and leaf action is active before watering more liberally. As the plant grows and enlarges its leaf surface there will be a corresponding and continuous demand for water, which can be supplied by standing the pot in a saucer or dish of water.

Some Wild Flowers—Moneses.

I send you to-day a little box of wild flowers, hoping that their sweetness and daintiness may claim acknowledgement in your Magazine. They are the wonder and admiration of all who visit our little island and we have never heard of any being found

anywhere else; and no botanist, so far as I can ascertain, gives them a name. We call them snowdrops because they are so pure. Are you familiar with them?

Matineus, Maine.

H. A.

The plant is *Moneses grandiflora*, and is really a sweet, dainty little thing. It never can be generally known or grown, as it flourishes only in cool, damp woods. It grows in a few localities in this region, but we are here near its southern limit; further north, in Canada, and even in Labrador, it finds the climate most agreeable to its nature. The plant consists only of a tuft or rosette of three to five little roundish leaves, about half an inch in diameter, from the midst of which rises a slender flower stem three or four inches in length and bearing a single white, nodding flower.

Raspberries Withering.

Please tell me in the Letter Box what to do to my Cuthbert Raspberries. As soon as the plants get to be a foot or two high the tops wither and dry up. You will oblige me by giving me a remedy.

Malone, N. Y.

Mrs. F. S. C.

We have never known raspberries to be affected in the manner here described, and we can only ask our readers if they know of a similar case. It is to be regretted that our correspondent so briefly describes the diseased plants, as we are left in the dark somewhat in regard to the effects. For instance, in saying the tops wither and dry up we do not know whether this means the upper portions of the young shoots or their whole length. If it is only the tips of the shoots we should think it the effect of some insect stinging the soft wood, but if the whole shoot withers there is probably some attack of the root. We hope our correspondent will examine the plants carefully, top and roots, and then send on a more complete description. In the meantime those who may have had a similar experience will, we hope, give what information they can on the subject.

A Few Words Florally.

I have loved flowers since a child, when my dear mother, from whom I inherited the love, raised them under difficulties that I know nothing of in my own experience—carrying pot plants to the cellar night after night during winter and bringing them up in the morning. But I would do it rather than have no plants.

However, with my nicely arranged conservatory where my plants are away from frosts of winter, and I can sprinkle them to my heart's content without moving them, so that people say as they look within "It is just like a greenhouse," I find nothing but pleasure in the cultivation of flowers. But alas! I have a trouble to contend with after all, for I always want all the plants I read about in the Floral Magazines as being desirable for a conservatory, and the plant catalogues, with their attractive make-up, draw the last penny from my purse in orders to florists, so that my plants fill the conservatory, run out into the sitting-room, the dining-room, and even into the kitchen, with almost always a fine specimen plant or two in the parlor. I just cannot help it, so have ceased to fight against it, though when I first had my conservatory I fully intended to keep within its bounds with my plants. You flower cranks know how it is. Then a large room in the cellar is full every winter of such plants as are in tubs that have been sunk in the yard during summer and require rest during winter—A goodly lot they are, too—oleanders, pomegranates, crane myrtle, acacias, daturas, and a great variety of cacti, the last, a plant I used to despise, but seeing it off I first endured, then loved, but never embraced; you don't have to, you can handle them with tongs, so to speak. All that they ask is to be let alone. So admire their pretty flowers at a distance.

I wish all the semi-invalid women in the country could be persuaded to grow flowers, for there's many a heartache and bodily pain that can be dug into the ground with an old steel fork, and left there, to spring up and bear what you will of lovely flowers. Try it, sister mine. If you have "no taste" for it subscribe to several floral magazines, and send for plant catalogues, then read all thoroughly, and if you cannot get enthusiastic that way your case must be hopeless.

Minnesota.

MIRIAM PARKER.

SPRING FLOWERING BULBS.

ANOTHER month brings us to the season of bulb planting, and it is well to commence to think how and to what extent we can employ to advantage these useful plants for the adornment of our grounds in spring and our rooms in winter. There would be a great vacancy, and one which every flower lover would feel and lament, if, for any reason, we should be



BEDS OF HYACINTHS, TULIPS AND CROCUS.

deprived of the Dutch bulbs. For weeks in the winter season our rooms and conservatories are bright and fragrant with hyacinths, tulips, narcissus, crocus, freesias, lily of the valley, and various other flowers of bulbs. We plant them with confidence, for experience has shown that they seldom bring us disappointment. The flowers may not turn out to be just what we expect in some cases, but they are never wholly unworthy, and never refuse to respond to our well-bestowed attention. On the contrary, no plants are, as a whole, so satisfactory and so easily cared for. And what a variety we can have, in habit of growth, in form of plants and flowers, in color, in fragrance, and in other particulars.

In the first place we should try to have a good supply of bulbous plants for the winter season, for they are so easily raised, and so cheerfully submit to the conditions of house culture that we cannot have the same amount of flower brightness and fragrance with any other kinds of plants. The earliest blooming varieties of

time brought by the New Year. The Roman hyacinth has not the compact spikes of the Dutch varieties, but the spikes are more numerous and more graceful, and the fragrant white flowers might be considered as emblems of innocence and purity. How much care do they require, do you ask? Only the slightest. When received pot the bulbs in some light soil and stand them away in a dark place where it is not too

cool, but where the roots will have a chance to develop, and in about six weeks bring them to the light at a window of some room in the house and they will soon show their leaves, and after a short time send up their flower stems.

Then to follow these plants in time of blooming there are the Dutch hyacinths of many colors and shades, tulips in great variety, narcissus



POLYANTHUS NARCISSUS GRAND MOGUL.

of charming beauty and fragrance, freesias, snowdrops, snowflakes, crocus, and many other kinds which one may select. All these are easily raised in any window or conservatory, and with as little care as that required by a geranium, the most careless of all in its demands.

Then again, these bulbs are quite indispensable in the beds and borders in early spring. At that season, while most other plants are yet dormant, or are only beginning to start into growth, these bulbs are sending up their flower stems

and opening out their blossoms, reflecting their beauty and shedding fragrance through all the air. Winter deals hard with our Northern gardens, leaving scarcely a green thing, and it is a keen satisfaction to see early in spring the crocus and snowdrop lift their heads and attest their vigor in spite of frosts and chilly winds. How it lengthens the flower season in our gardens to have the bulbous flowers in April and May, a whole month of bloom before even the earliest of the hardy flowering plants come out.

A practice is becoming common to plant crocus bulbs all over the lawn. With a sharp trowel a cut is made through the grass and the turf is lifted and a bulb inserted and then the turf pressed back again into place. In this way the bulbs, blue, white and yellow, are scattered all over the ground, and in spring they come up be-



MODEL SHOW TULIP.

fore the grass starts and produce a very pretty effect in the early season. They will be through blooming before time for grass cutting, and brighten up the lawn wonderfully while the grass is yet brown. Plant bulbs in beds, in masses of color, as edgings of borders, on the borders of shrubbery, and in other ways, they are beautiful everywhere.

-- VICKS' --

Fall Catalogue,

1894.

Full description of and instructions when and how to plant all varieties of FALL BULBS for house and outdoor culture.

Winter flowering plants for the house.

A large variety of Grapes, Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Gooseberries, Currants, and Small Fruits of all kinds.

Seeds for fall planting, and everything necessary for the house and garden.

*This catalogue mailed **free** upon application.*

All purchasers of Bulbs last fall will receive this catalogue without further notice.

ORDER NOW.

**JAMES VICK'S SONS,
Rochester, N. Y.**



TRUMPET NARCISSUS.

hyacinth is the Roman White, coming along usually at Christmas and New Years; at the same time may be had the Paper White Narcissus. We cannot too strongly present the desirability of these bulbs, as their beauty and fragrance make them always admired, and coming, as they do, when winter has set in upon us in earnest, they seem like a pledge of the spring-



ROCHESTER, N. Y., AUGUST, 1894.

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Suggestions for August.

Rose insects don't like wood ashes.

Geraniums bloom best in small pots.

Nasturtiums sown in window boxes now will be gorgeous winter bloomers.

Improve on nature every year by raising something better than weeds.

Petunias will do well in the house if rooted from strong cuttings made in August.

Soap suds every Monday night on roots of plants makes strong growth and good bloom.

Make cuttings now for fall potting. Put strong shoots in damp sand and for a week keep shaded.

Strawberry plants rooted in pots will grow and bloom in the house if taken in in the fall and make a novel ornament.

If you have room for a row of currants and do not have them, you miss one of the most healthful and useful fruits of the garden.

Plants that have been in pots all summer want new rich soil by September first, in order to get new strong roots for their winter work.

Window boxes started now with "young stuff" will be easily moved on piazzas, etc., when cool weather comes and will last quite a while inside.

August Garden Work.

August brings its full share of work in the garden. Besides hoeing and cultivating and keeping walks and grounds clean there is a great variety of work at hand. New strawberry beds are to be planted and old ones cleaned out or cleared away. The old canes of raspberries and blackberries to be cut away; cleaning asparagus bed; still watching and destroying worms on currant and gooseberry bushes; picking up and destroying decayed and wormy fruits, and many other matters, demand attention.

If spinach is wanted for the table in the fall it can be sowed any time this month and will

come into use the last of September. Lettuce can be sowed now for late use. The Cos varieties are best at this time as they stand the heat better than the other kinds. If one has a spent hotbed it can be utilized by sowing in it radish seed and cress for late use. In the latter part or very last part of the month, lettuce seed can be sowed in a cold frame to winter over for early spring use. One of the best varieties for this purpose is the Early Egg Lettuce.

As many kinds of house plants which have been turned out for the summer will need to be lifted and potted early in September it will be well to make preparations for it by getting together the pots and thoroughly washing and cleaning them and getting new ones to make up deficiencies. Potting soil should have a final turning and be in readiness for use.

Lawn Making.

The first of September is the best time for seeding new grounds, and all preparatory work on them should be completed this month. It ought to be kept in mind in making this preparation that it can be done but once and it is for a long time, therefore it should be thorough. Deep ploughing or spading is a necessity for a good growth of grass. If the ground is wet or springy it must first be underdrained. The final work is to pulverize the surface soil to the last degree; it is not possible to make it too fine and mellow for the reception of the seed. If stable manure is plowed in it must be old and well rotted, otherwise the crop of weeds will be too great. In place of stable manure use at the rate of three, four or five hundred pounds to the acre of some good commercial fertilizer. When the grass starts, whatever manure or fertilizer may have been used, there will also appear more or less weeds; many of these will be killed by frost later, but others will come again in the spring, for the seeds are in the ground and must germinate. Do not be surprised therefore to see them, but one need not be alarmed, for most of them will soon perish after cutting commences or at latest by next autumn. Some kinds, however, should be removed in the early spring if they appear, especially dandelion and plantain.

In dragging and fining the surface soil see that all little depressions are worked out and the whole left as it is desired to appear when in grass. Use plenty of seed. It is poor economy to be stingy in seeding grass. The thicker it comes up the better the lawn, while if the seeding is sparse it often takes two or three years to remedy it. Choose a still day for seeding, when there is little or no wind, and scatter the seed as evenly as possible, and at the rate of at least four bushels to the acre. Afterwards rake over lightly, or, if the surface is a large one, drag it with a light harrow or brush.

St. Louis Exposition.

An exposition of six weeks duration is to be held in St. Louis this fall, commencing September 5. The fruits of Missouri, it is expected, will make a great display at this show, as not only fresh fruits from all parts of the State will be presented, but the State collection of bottled fruits which were on exhibition at the World's Fair in Chicago last year will be displayed.

A National Health Bureau.

It is to be hoped that before the present Congress shall adjourn it will have passed a bill now before it to establish a Bureau of Public Health within the Department of the Interior of the United States. This bill has been prepared by the National Quarantine Committee of the New York Academy of Medicine. While the healing art has been slowly advancing from the earliest times, yet within comparatively few years the laws of hygiene have been learned, and to their observance more than to the skill of physicians is to be attributed the superior health of many individuals and communities. The present bill is not one aiming to prevent only the influx of great epidemic waves of disease such as cholera and yellow fever, but also by proper sanitary regulations and medical care to diminish the number of cases of such diseases as measles, smallpox, scarlet fever, typhus and typhoid fevers. Dr. Thomas, chairman of the committee above mentioned, is authority for the following statement:

"To the popular mind, for example, the disease whooping cough is generally regarded as an insignificant disorder, which every child must sooner or later have, and which is attended by little risk. Yet the facts are really these: Between the ages of one and six years millions of children yearly die of this affection in the civilized world today, as they have done from the beginning, while it is beyond question true that a large proportion of these deaths could be prevented by an enlightened quarantine."

The present bill meets the approval of the medical profession generally, and of the press throughout the country.

Mushrooms.

We are pleased to announce that the four pamphlets on the subject of edible mushrooms, prepared by Dr. Thomas Taylor, and which were noticed in our last issue, can be procured by those wishing them by writing simply on a postal card to the Secretary of Agriculture at Washington for Dr. Taylor's pamphlets on mushrooms. Those of our readers who are interested in the subject of mushrooms should not let slip this opportunity to secure a really good thing.

Papaver umbrosum.

To have this glorious poppy in all its fineness and beauty it should be raised from seeds sown in autumn. So says R. D., in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, and we think it is equally true of all varieties of poppies. The plants are stronger and the flowers larger from autumn-sown seeds. Seeds sown late in autumn do not germinate until spring, but then they start and get a send off that keeps them ahead of spring-sown seeds all the season.

Weak and Weary

Overcome by the heat or extraordinary exertion, the physical system, like a machine, needs to be renovated and repaired. The blood needs to be purified and invigorated and the nerves

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and muscles strengthened by Hood's Sarsaparilla, which creates an appetite, removes that tired feeling and gives sweet, sound, refreshing sleep.

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AUGUST JOTTINGS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

No bird is singing on any bough;
It's too hot weather for singing now.
Give me the hammock that swings in shade,
And plentiful draughts of cool lemonade,—
A palm-leaf fan and a book, and I
Will try to be happy while others fry.

Oh, my!

But it's hot, hot, hot! and one can't be poetical, no matter how hard he may try.

In August I always wish I was a fish. It looks so delightfully cool and comfortable down in the water that it seems as if one might enjoy life there during dog days. There's where one might find pleasure in being "in the swim."

The very best summer-blooming border plant I have had this year is *Coreopsis lanceolata*. It has been a mass of bright golden flowers for weeks. I have never seen it grow in masses, but next year I am going to have a bed of it on the lawn. We have no annual that surpasses it in richness of color or freedom of flowering.

An exceedingly rich and brilliant effect could be produced by having a circular bed planted with the *Coreopsis* and *Salvia splendens*, the latter in a large mass in the center. Both flowers are intense in tone, and they would harmonize charmingly, and afford striking contrast. What a blaze of color they would make on the lawn.

This *Coreopsis* could also be very effective if planted at the foot of *Delphinium formosum*, with its splendid masses of rich dark blue flowers.

For a north window there is no better summer plant than the fern. The *Adiantum* branch of the family is especially pleasing. Its light, lace-like fronds make a window look cool and suggest shady nooks in the woods where one would like to be these long hot days. They may not have any appreciable effect on the thermometer, but they do on those who look at them and give play to the imagination.

Some of my chrysanthemums have been very freakish this season. I had two plants of Ivory that I pinched back in June. They immediately began to bud. I pinched off the buds but the plants have steadily refused to make a growth of branches. Had this happened on an early bloomer I would not have wondered very much at it. The plants have had plenty of root room and plenty of water. How am I to account for such behavior?

The very best edging plant we have is the *Madam Salleroi* geranium. Set the plants about six inches apart and they soon form a solid mass of foliage, and little care is required, to keep them in very symmetrical shape. Candytuft and sweet alyssum depend on their flowers for beauty as edging plants, and they do not bloom freely continuously. This plant depends on its foliage, and is presentable at all times.

What "warm" effects the sunflower gives. One came up in a bed on the lawn and I concluded to let it grow. It is now eight feet high, has probably a hundred branches, big and little, and it is a perfect blaze of large and small blossoms, each one reminding you of a sun in its ability to impart a feeling of warmth. In the heat of the day it makes me perspire to look at them. But in the early morning they give a bright, cheerful glow to everything about them, and then I can't help enjoying them. Perhaps they are a trifle coarse, but they are sturdy, honest, unpretentious plants, and one likes them for these good qualities. The wee ones are excellent for use in large vases.

It has been too hot with us for sweet peas. They wilted in the fierce sunshine. I think one should aim to give this flower shade in the afternoon. *Blanche Ferry* bloomed just enough to make us extremely sorry for her untimely decease. The pink and white sorts are lovely, but this variety is loveliest of all.

Here and there in the border you ought to have groups of the hardy scarlet poppies. They

are charming flowers. The white variety is pretty, but the scarlet variety is very much prettier.

Between my house and a bend in the river is a low piece of ground on which a few tall elms grow, but beneath their branches one can look the whole field over. At this writing the field is all purple and gold, a most magnificent sight. Goldenrod and ironweed are in full bloom. There are clumps four feet across that stand higher than my head, and these clumps grow so close that there is scarcely room to pass between them. Seeing this bit of natural gardening one cannot but wish that more of our gardeners would turn to nature for suggestions. Every year this field has its visitors from the city, who say they never saw anything finer.

For a north veranda, where everything should be suggestive of coolness, there is no prettier vine than the wild cucumber. Its foliage has a crisp beauty; its flowers are airy, graceful, and so profuse that the entire vine seems flecked with foam. Give it a wire netting to clamber over and it will go up, up, up, and droop its beautiful festoonery about the second story windows.

The plant of happiness cannot thrive without the air of cheerfulness.

SETTING STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

I used to set plants by the spade method and by hard work could plant 1200 to 1500 in a day. I now set four or five times that number in a day and do it easily.

With a single shovel in the one horse cultivator I mark out a drill five or six inches deep. If the weather is sunny and dry, I do not mark out very much at a time. In cloudy weather I have sometimes marked out an acre at a time with a two-horse marker.

Then with a basket of plants strapped over his shoulder, a boy lays the roots in the marked row, being careful to have the crowns all pointing in the same direction, at right angles to the drill and at the same depth.

When I have a particular smart active boy I make a pair of pincers about two feet long for him to lay the plants with, and not have to stoop. The pincers are made by sawing a thick lath into two pieces, except three or four inches at one end. This end is kept from splitting by a screw. About twelve inches from the screw insert a small wedge, nailing and clinching it. The wedge opens the pincers after the plant is dropped.

A man follows the boy and with a hoe strikes into the moist soil and draws enough to the plant to cover the roots. He then steps on the soil close to the plant pressing it firmly and brushing aside with his foot any extra soil.

The old strawberry grower from whom I learned said he and a boy had set 10,000 plants in a day. I have set 5,000 plants in a day.

However, I always set just as early in the season as the soil is fit.

I don't think this method would do for late planting, nor loose, dry soils.

I have had good success on a sandy loam by setting early, seldom losing more than 5 per cent. of plants.—*C. H. Sumner, in Strawberry Culturist.*

Keep a close eye on the man whose wife is afraid to ask him for money.

RAISING STRAWBERRIES.

I have been at it for eighteen years, have experimented and now take my own way, regardless of what others say or write. I keep my berries on the same patch for many years and always have a full crop, as any of my neighbors will testify to. This is my mode of procedure:

My matted rows are about two feet wide. In April, as soon as the ground is in order, I thoroughly hoe and weed, hoeing in the mulch of leaf cow manure, using leaves as bedding; then I do nothing more till the berries are all off about July 4th. Then I go in with a sharp cultivator between the rows and tear out the side of the row, leaving them about a foot wide. I then thin the stalks to about six inches apart. In a couple of weeks they commence to run. I leave all runners on unless they get too thick (which is not often), when I tear some out. The trouble is mostly the other way. I cultivate, hoe and weed every week or two as they need it until cold weather, when the rows are mostly about two feet wide. The first hard freeze I mulch heavily on the rows (not between) with heavy cow manure; it don't hurt them a bit. I loosen it up as soon as the frost is out in the spring. I suppose my plan will not meet your approval nor the public's, but I defy anyone to show a finer patch for miles around.

I will state why I think my plan the very best. It takes the best of ground for strawberries. I put the heavy mulch manure on the same ground every year, thereby enriching it (I use no other fertilizer). I get a full crop each and every year, thereby saving the trouble and labor of planting every year. Then I keep them clean, which is no small job. About two years before getting a full crop, besides losing the use of the ground where the new crop is growing. My ground is a gravelly sand. I can irrigate it—did so last year. When picking I found they were drying up. I irrigated several times last year, as we had the severest drought I ever experienced. I sell in a local market.—*L. C. Bodder, in Strawberry Culturist.*

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LILIES AND THEIR CULTURE.

I WOULD urge all who have not already planted lilies to plant at least a few varieties this fall. Nothing prettier grows, and when their culture is understood they are easily raised. Many varieties must be planted in the fall, others in the spring, and some sorts do well either way. The treatment is much the same for all sorts—planting the bulbs from six to nine inches deep and covering with straw or evergreen branches during severe weather. Care must be exercised that the ground is well drained, as nothing is so fatal to lilies as water standing about the roots. The soil should be rich, but the dressing must be well mixed so it will not come in direct contact with the bulbs. Some varieties grow tall and slender, and must be tied up to stakes, while the low growing sorts need no support.

A few sorts, like *Lilium candidum*, make some growth in the early fall; these it is necessary to plant as early as possible so the growth will not be interrupted. They can often be procured as early as August. *L. candidum*, mentioned above, is often called the Easter, Madonna, or Annunciation lily, and is probably the best known of the large family of lilies. It blooms in June, each stalk bearing a large number of pure white trumpet-shaped flowers. Their fragrance is delightful. As it is very hardy this is a fine sort for general cultivation. It can be left in one spot for several years, but if the clumps are divided once in three or four years they will bear more flowers. The bulbs of this sort force easily, even in an ordinary window.

L. Harrisii, or Bermuda Easter Lily, is a grand sort, but is used more for forcing than for outdoor planting in this climate of northern Illinois. Its blossoms are very large, pure white, and extremely fragrant. It will bear quite severe winters if it is planted deep and well covered. It blooms a little later than *L. candidum*, and is the most popular lily grown.

L. auratum, or gold-banded lily of Japan, is a justly popular variety, being both hardy and a free bloomer. The flowers are extremely large, pure white with a gold band through the center of each petal. Some carmine spots are scattered over them and make a fine contrast. I have had blossoms of this lily that measured ten inches across from point to point. The bulbs are brought to us from Japan, and are used both for forcing and outdoor culture.

L. speciosum, of which there are four sorts, will be found valuable for the garden. They resemble the *auratum* somewhat, but never attain its great size.

L. speciosum album, a white variety, sometimes slightly tinged with pink, is a great favorite of mine, especially for cemetery planting.

L. speciosum roseum and *rubrum* have carmine spots and bands, and *L. speciosum album praecox* is like *album* except that it has a plush-like fringe through each petal, giving it a unique appearance.

All are deliciously fragrant, and hardy enough to withstand our Northern winters.

L. tigrinum flore pleno, or double tiger lily, is a great improvement on the single ones. Its manner of growth is much the same as its parent, but the flowers are very double, and remain per-

fect on the stalk much longer. It is perfectly hardy, and well repays one for the trouble of planting it, for it needs no further care.

L. tenuifolium is a beautiful little plant. It is a native of Siberia, and is often called the "coral lily of Siberia." It has slender foliage and grows about a foot and a half high. The flowers are a brilliant scarlet, and droop gracefully from the stem. It is also hardy, and when left alone for a few years it increases to a large clump, which is the most effective way in which to grow it.

L. excelsum is a pretty pale yellow, or buff lily, which grows about five feet high. Each stalk bears seven or eight flowers, which have a waxy appearance. This variety, growing so tall, makes a fine background for the low growing sorts.

L. pardalinum, or leopard lily, is a strong, free-flowering sort. The blossoms are yellow, spotted with brownish-red. It is one of the very best for general planting, and cannot fail to give success.

These are only a few of the many sorts, but are what I consider the best ones for general culture. If these are planted first we can add other sorts, a few at a time, until a fine collection is made. Nothing is handsomer than a bed of lilies, and as they remain in the ground and improve year after year their beauty increases with time. When one wishes to force lilies for winter they should be planted early in the fall. See that the pot has good drainage, then put in three or four inches of good soil and on this place the bulb and just cover it with earth. Set it away in a dark, cool place to form roots, and when the top commences to grow fill the pot with soil gradually until full; after this is done the plant will soon develop a flower stalk. Lilies, as a rule, are quite free from disease. If, however, there should be signs of any trouble the best way to meet it is to lift the plants as soon as they have finished their growth and their tops have died down, and wash the bulbs and cut out any affected spots, then replant in a new place.

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A Noted Horticulturist Gone.

Fruit growers in all parts of the country know, by his writings in public journals or otherwise, of Mr. E. Williams, of Mont Clair, New Jersey, and have been accustomed to regard his statements on horticultural matters as undeniable authority. He was a leader among his co-workers in his own State, and his example and teachings have done much to extend the practice of horticulture throughout the country. His death, therefore, is a public loss, but his name will live in the memory and esteem of his fellow workers.

OBITUARY OF EDMUND WILLIAMS.

Suffering for many years with a painful disease, against which to the last moment he bravely battled, our esteemed President of the New Jersey State Horticultural Society, at last, on the evening of July 12th, yielded, passing away peacefully to his heavenly rest.

In him horticulture has lost one of its most ardent supporters and ablest advocates. The pages of horticultural journals and popular dailies have been for years enriched by his contributions, and many a young beginner has been kindly led in safe paths by his writings and practical illustrations of his garden and fruit farm at Mont Clair, N. J.

Spending the past winter amid his Florida orange groves, he failed to receive the usual benefits from its balmy and sweet scented breezes, and returned only to more acutely suffer during the few remaining days of his existence. He had lately finished a new mansion, into which he had just moved. His deep interest in this and his strong will kept him moving amid the shades of its picturesque surroundings until within a few hours of his death.

His casket was beautifully decorated with Lillium Harisii, pairs of sago palms, and sprays of asparagus, the last offerings of his beloved Horticultural Society. Among the horticulturalists and scientists who attested their affection by attendance at his funeral, we noticed Messrs. Theodore Baker, Bridgeton, N. J.; E. P. Beebe, Elizabeth, N. Y.; Chas. L. Jones, Newark, N. J.; Dr. J. B. Ward, Lyons Farm, N. J.; D. A. Vanderveer, Freehold, N. J.; W. R. Ward, Newark, N. J.; Thos. J. Beans, Moorestown, N. J.; J. B. Rogers, Newark, N. J.; Mortimer Whitehead, Washington, D. C.; Prof. E. B. Voorhees, New Brunswick, N. J.; Dr. D. B. Halstead, New Brunswick, N. J.; J. L. Crane, Livingstone, N. J.; Austin E. Heddin, Verona, N. J.; N. Halleck, Queens, L. I.; J. J. Lovett, Little Silver, N. J.; C. C. Corby, Mont Clair, N. J.; F. C. Goble, Verona, N. J.; H. I. Budd, Mt. Holly, N. J.

As he has written of others, so our last testimony shall be of him: "Careful and observing in habit, diligent in labor, modest and retiring in disposition, conscientious and truthful in statements based on solid and practical facts, society loses a valuable member, the community an honored and esteemed citizen, and horticulture an enthusiastic friend."

HENRY I. BUDD, Sec'y.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Our President, Edmund Williams, having been called by our Heavenly Father from his earthly labors, we, the Executive Committee of the New Jersey State Horticultural Society, desire to express our feelings and sympathy in the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Society has lost an efficient officer. The members, a valuable counsellor and co-worker; the cause, an able, earnest and conscientious supporter. In him there was no guile. Horticulture his chief delight and pursuit. With clear-eyed vision and practical knowledge, he quickly detected every advantage or false pretension and with pen and speech effectually drove his shafts of criticism through every bubble, so becoming a leading authority in the horticultural world, he saved by timely exposure or commendation immense losses in fruitless experimentations.

Resolved, That our sympathies and a copy of these resolutions be given his widow. Also copies forwarded to the daily and weekly papers and horticultural journals for publication.

Attest,

H. I. BUDD,
Sec'y.

CHAS. L. JONES,
E. R. BEEBE,
DR. J. B. WARD,
J. M. WHITE,
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FLORAL FACTS AND FANCIES.

Oddly enough, it was also believed long ago that if a woman put together a bouquet, this indicated she was in love. "The wreathing garland in a woman is the usual symptom of a lovesick mind," a poet has said. Something in the beauty and delicacy of flowers seem to link them to what we used to call the "softer sex," hence the feminine appellations given in former times to many species. But it has been remarked that the name of the nymph Amaryllis ought not to have been conferred upon a tribe of plants which are notable for qualities that we would not wish to believe womanly. Since the Amaryllids, as an order, are deceptive species, beauty is frequently displayed in their flowers, while a dangerous poison may lurk within stem or bulb. Some persons have supposed that the handsome *A. lutea* is the lily of the Scriptures, but probably that is the scarlet Martagon lily, which delights in the Syrian valleys, though also found about mountains. Very regal, however, is the former with its golden blooms; common in Greece and Turkey, it is often planted upon graves as a token of the love of survivors. The showiness observable in the genus Amaryllis has made them, symbolically, the representatives of "vanity." Quite a contrast to these is the lowly snowdrop, "herald of the flowers," says Westwood, which comes forth bravely holding its white flag of truce, and entreating stern winter to free its many brethren from their long imprisonment. Its familiar name points us to the old legend, that, when Eve was grieving at the first snowstorm, an angel assured her the spring would come again, and as a token, taking some of the snowflakes he transformed them into this flower. Hence snowdrop may mean both "consolation" and "hope."

Like many of its relatives, it has acrid qualities in its roots; so too has daffodil or Lent lily, so-called, but properly a narcissus. There is a quaintness about its longer English name of daffodownilly, which is allusive to its sometimes covering dells as a wild flower. One poet, Herrick, regarded the golden daffodils pensively, seeing in them a comparison to the brevity of human life:

"We have short time to stay, like you,
We have as short a spring."

Jean Ingelow speaks of it, but not in terms of praise: it is a plant of evil omen, though by some of the writers on plant meanings the species is taken to imply "regard." The narcissus, we remember, is named from the crazy youth of classic story who gazed upon his own image in the stream till his excessive admiration of his shadow ended his life. When the nymphs mourned for him, and sought his body, they could only discover this floral memorial of him, the narcissus, seemingly the *N. poeticus*, with its white petals and yellow nectary. But some have fancied that the narcissus of the ancients was a purplish flower, not this poet's narcissus, which, however, is likely to continue a symbol of "egotism."

That quality, or self-conceit, might be supposed to characterize the majority of our showy garden tulips. Many-hued, their name is said to have been suggested by the turban-like appearance of the flowers. Special significance, however, is attached to some kinds, for a red tulip bears the same meaning as do other flowers of that color. Its resemblance to a blush symbolizes "love declared," but it is not so obvious why a striped tulip should remind us of "beautiful eyes," and "hopeless love" might be expressed, by handing to anyone a yellow tulip. Yet another meaning is said to belong to the whole tulip tribe by some authors. They are flowers that represent fame, because

their size and brilliancy make them conspicuous; their beauty is not hidden or concealed like that of some species. I should have noted, when referring to the fritillarias, that one variety, the Crown Imperial lily, passes for an emblem of majesty or power, rightly enough, and "persecution" is another symbolic meaning given to the spotted varieties. The gladiolus is a flower that may be considered as particularly suitable for the decoration of members of our Volunteer forces, since it signifies that one is "fore-armed against all foes."—*J. R. S. C. in Horticultural Journal.*

There are too many fathers who will tie up the dog at night and let the boy run loose.

STRAWBERRIES IN 1893 AND 1894.

The following observations are made from the results of experiments made at the Ohio Experiment Station at Wooster, during the two seasons, 1893 and 1894:

Beder Wood (perfect).—This has some merit as an early variety, but the foliage is subject to rust and the berries are too small to meet the demands of most markets.

Cyclone (perfect).—A new variety, grown three seasons at the Ohio station, but not generally disseminated. The plant and fruit resemble the Haverland, but the berries are rather broader and shorter. Having perfect flowers and being similar to Haverland and Crescent, it can be recommended for planting with these varieties. It is quite early and yet continues long in bearing and holds up in size quite well to the last. It should be given a trial generally.

Enhance (perfect).—In many respects a desirable variety, being prolific and having perfect blossoms. The berries are ill shaped and quite acid. For canning and distant market it can be recommended.

Greenville (imperfect).—This has been on trial several seasons and is now quite generally disseminated. It has always been satisfactory at the Ohio station and seems to suit growers for near market. It is not firm enough for long shipments, but its freedom from disease, its prolificacy, fine appearance and good quality make it one of the best for home use and for near market. It is worthy of general trial.

Lovett (perfect).—This has been sufficiently tested to determine that it has merit. The plants are healthy and prolific, the berries average above medium size and it must be rated as reliable. It is a good companion for Crescent or Haverland.

Michel's Early (perfect).—Very early, but too small, soft and unproductive for general cultivation. A few may be planted for home use and when earliness is a desirable quality, but in any case the plants should be kept thin in the row.

Muskingum (perfect).—Somewhat like Bubach in being difficult to start, which often makes it disappointing. When well grown it is one of the most satisfactory of the perfect flowered sorts for home use and near market.

Marshal (perfect).—Plants vigorous and free from disease, but only moderately prolific. The berries are large, beautiful and of good quality, making it a desirable sort for amateurs and for those who cater to a market for fancy berries. For the ordinary commerce grower it will probably not prove more profitable than the best standard sorts, but that there is a place for it can hardly be doubted.

Parker Earle (perfect).—One of the most prolific varieties in existence, but on poor soil or in dry season the greater share of the berries fail to reach a marketable size. Unless it can be given the utmost favorable conditions it will not prove satisfactory.

Princeton Chief (imperfect).—A new variety that requires further testing before a fair judgment can be rendered. The plants are very vigorous, but apparently not prolific. The berries are of medium size, quite attractive in ap-

pearance, but very acid. They are firm, however, and it may prove to be a valuable market variety. Season medium to late.

Swindle and *Shucklen* not desirable, although the latter has been tested one season only.

Timbrell (imperfect).—A much lauded and widely advertised variety, but far from satisfactory. The berries color poorly, often in patches, giving them an unsightly appearance. From 50 plants not a single quart of marketable berries were picked during the season. The same complaint is heard from other quarters, hence as a market berry the Timbrell is probably of little value.

The best of the old varieties are Warfield, Bubach, Crescent and Haverland, and no variety seems to have been found that is likely to supersede them.

It is much better to trust yourself to a few good authors than to wander aimlessly through several.

ROOT LICE ON ASTERS.—In answer to an inquiry about root lice on asters, Dr. Lintner says, in *Gardening*, that:

The plant lice infesting the asters and other plants are probably the species known as the *Aphis Middletonii* Thomas. It is known frequently to attack them, and seriously to interfere with their growth. They are provided with conspicuous honey-tubes, which give out a large amount of honey-dew, and attracts ants to feed upon it. They are hardly ever found unless the ants are associated with them. They may be killed by drawing away the ground from about the roots until they are exposed and then drenching them with soapsuds, tobacco-water or pyrethrum-water. Hot water poured upon them will also kill them, but care should be taken not to apply it at too high a temperature. It would be best first to experiment with the hot water upon a single plant. If the aphides are killed the ants would leave, and no longer stay to honeycomb the soil.

J. A. LINTNER.

It does not matter how many, but how good, books you have.

PROTECTING CRIMSON CLOVER FROM FROST.—A trial here last year in lightly seeding with oats in connection with crimson clover makes it evident that the practice is a good one. Crimson clover will stand our winters here well enough, but their trial comes in March when we have mild days and cold nights, the ground freezing and thawing and throwing the roots partly out—then in a short time the plants are killed by the cold. The oats are killed down when hard freezing weather comes on and fall over and protect the clover, so that the loss by throwing out is comparatively small. Oat seeding for this purpose may not be needed in mild climates, but wherever the injury from frost prevails to a considerable extent it will be well to adopt this means of protection.

Many people have been lost because their heads refused to follow their hearts.

BORDEAUX MIXTURE FOR FRUITS.—Professor Craig, of the Ontario Experiment Station, at Ottawa, in a letter to the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia, says: "I have found Bordeaux mixture to give absolute protection from grape and gooseberry mildew, practical immunity from apple and pear scab, raspberry and bean anthracnose. But in all these instances the fruit grower must remember that it is a case of prevention—not cure, so that early treatment is an imperative essential to success. Therefore spray in season, and perseveringly, and success is certain to follow intelligent, well-directed effort."

The Song of a Banana Peel.

I'm the peel of the festive banana;
I lie in wait on the street
For the old man and the young man,
And the maiden fair and sweet.

I'm no respecter of persons,
I'm at home in any place;
The minister, proud and portly,
I bring to a fall from grace.

I make the dude most wrathful
As he sitteth down, O, so flat,
And picketh himself up sadly
From the ruins of his best hat.

Too awful for me to utter
Are the words the young men say
As they fall,—but it makes me happy,
Because I am built that way.

As he went jauntily down the street
His own "best girl" he happened to meet;
And oh, how happy that made him feel!
He smiled and he bowed, and he raised his hat,
And that very instant he sat down flat,—
He'd stepped on an old banana peel!

—Wow!!

A FEW WORDS ABOUT ROSES.

SOME years ago, when I was invited to write a paper on roses I readily consented. I was then enjoying my first success in cultivating my favorite flower, and felt possessed of such an unlimited fund of information on the subject that I was ready to instruct any one who stood in need of such knowledge. But since then years have put to the test some of my pet theories, and, I must confess, put many of them to flight, and now I only feel capable of saying just a few words in the matter. It must be understood that whatever I now say is intended for the novice only. I no longer aspire to teach the experienced floriculturist.

The first necessity for rose growing is morning sun. I do not believe that any satisfaction can possibly be obtained, even though the sun should beat on one's roses from midday to midnight. It is the early morning sun which is the source of life and strength to them, and if after midday they are in the shade so much the better. Rich soil, a shelter from north and east winds by shrubs, or by a fence not too near, and plenty of room for ventilation between the bushes,—under these conditions any rose except standards may be grown with perfect success in Ottawa.

Of course nearly all of them must be covered in winter, and the tea roses much more heavily than the others. Rosa rugosa, all the briars, including the two yellow roses, and all moss roses, are better for being left quite unprotected. All should be heavily mulched before the first of July.

The most important division, to the gardener, is that of remontant and non-remontant, or summer, varieties. The former bloom on shoots of the same year's growth, while the latter must have two-year-old wood before they will show us a flower. As to pruning: If one's roses are all remontant the experience of Canon Hole, the well known rosarian, will serve as a guide. He said that his roses had never been so glorious as they were the year they had been pruned by a donkey that had broken into his garden and cropped his romantants to the ground. According to this one should cut out as one does with its cousin, the raspberry bush, every shoot that has borne, and shorten the new growth, while with the others only two-year-old wood must go.

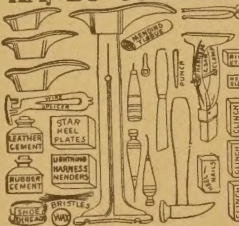
If I could only grow one rose it should be a Jaqueminot, and if I could have six they should all be the same, but if more might be mine for the choosing I would say three La France, three Mme. Victor Verdier, three Baroness Rothschild, three Merveille de Lyon, one Gracilis moss, one Old English moss, and one crested moss. There are, of course, dozens more, perfect dreams of loveliness, but some weakness of constitution or shyness of blooming would make me wait until a year's success with the varieties I have named had given me strength to bear the trial of a possible failure with the host of beauties which rise before me at this moment and plead in vain for a word in their behalf.—A paper read before the Ottawa Agricultural Society, June 26, 1894, by The Hon. Mrs. Lambert.

A fool does at the end what a wise man does at the beginning.



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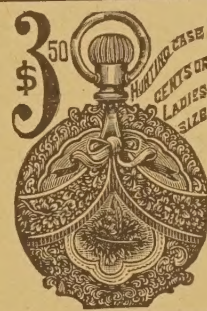
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MAGNOLIA CONSPICUA.—On account of its early flowering and sweet odor, this is one of the most popular of all magnolias. In England it doesn't seem to thrive as well as in America, the summers of that region not seeming to be sufficient to properly ripen its wood. Even in comparatively mild climates they have to plant against high walls or buildings in order to get the additional summer heat for this purpose. Foreigners are, therefore, surprised when they come to America and find trees fifty or sixty feet high covered with thousands of its large white, cup-like blossoms. It is one of the earliest to bloom, coming out before the winter is scarcely over; in fact, not unfrequently blossoms are destroyed by late frost. Although a tree, it has the advantage of flowering quite young; two or three year old plants frequently bearing one or two blossoms. Some people object to having a tree covered with bloom without any leaves, and criticize it as unnatural, but for all this, it is generally popular in spite of these criticisms.—*Meehan's Monthly for July.*

Learn as if you were to live forever; live as though you were to die to-morrow.

THE ADIRONDAC APPLE.—This apple, a promising new seedling, originated in the northeast part of New York. The originator is S. Delmar Hay, who was also the originator of the Downing. The Adirondac is an apple of great beauty, fine quality, and a cross between the Westfield Seek-No-Further and the Hubbardston. It does not spot, and resembles the Seek-No-Further in size, shape and freedom from defects, while in form and color it is more like the Hubbardston. In size it is medium to large; form roundish oblate; surface smooth and glossy; color rich yellow nearly covered with deep red; flesh yellowish, white, crisp, juicy, and mild subacid. The tree originated in a cold country, near the 45th parallel, and is very hardy; a thrifty vigorous grower, and comes early into bearing. It is a prolific annual bearer, and its season is from October to February. As a market apple it will unquestionably take high rank on account of its handsome appearance, fine quality, hardness and immense productiveness.—*The Originator.*

Unless you think more than you talk, perhaps it would be just as well not to talk much.

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LIQUID MANURE.—Fruit growers make a big mistake in not more generally using liquid manure, which the trees and vines take up at once, while they must wait for nature to properly prepare ordinary fertilizers before the plant can appropriate them. Every one of the small fruits are benefited by the application of liquid manure, though when applied early in the spring it will likely cause such a growth of wood that some pinching back may be necessary. Liquid manure can be prepared by placing barnyard manure in a barrel and pouring water on it. In a few days it will be ready for use. Effort should be made to save the drainage of the barnyard. One way to do, if the yard naturally drains in a certain direction, is to have a pond to receive the drainage. I learned this when I was a boy by observing a pond of this character in our State, New Jersey. For a wonder, in those early days the owner had learned the value of liquid manure and he applied it to the garden and truck patch from this pond.

No man's character is any better than his word.

VERY USEFUL DOG.—The rector of a country parish church in England once went to fill the pulpit of a colleague who was temporarily absent from home. After the service he thought he would gauge the effect of his discourse by the opinion of that very fair index of public feeling, the parish clerk.

"Well, Rogers," he said, "did you like my sermon?"

"I did," was the reply.

"I hope I wasn't too long," he anxiously inquired.

"No, you wasn't too long about it," rejoined Rogers.

"Well, then," said the rector, "I hope I wasn't too short?"

"No," answered Rogers, "nor yet too short, neither. You was just about right."

The rector felt relieved and said:

"I am glad of that, because, to tell the truth, while I was writing that sermon my little dog got hold of four of the folios and destroyed them, and I was afraid it would be too short."

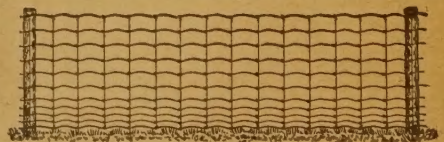
Rogers looked very thoughtful for a moment and then very confidentially remarked:

"Lor, now, did he? I suppose you wouldn't min' lettin' our rector 'ere 'ave a pup 'o your dog?"

We could all do more lifting up if we would do more looking up.

A TEACHER asked a boy to explain, if he could, the difference between animal instinct and human intelligence. It was a pretty hard question, but the boy was equal to it. "If we had instinct," he said, "we should know everything we needed to without learning it; but we've got reason, and so we have to study ourselves 'most blind or be a fool."—*Good News.*

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PRIMULA OBCONICA.

Notwithstanding its reputation for poisoning our hands when we handle it we cannot do without this winter beauty. First year seedlings are the best, they have such fine foliage and large blossoms. Sometimes we divide the old plants, but it is poor practice unless the variety is exceptionally good. As the old plants don't set seeds freely in the greenhouse in winter or spring, we set the best of them out in a faintly shaded cold frame in April, in June we generally get lots of seed from them without any trouble. We can sow the seed and raise seedlings at any time, but for convenience sake we do this in January or February, and treat the seedlings in summer just as we do our young Chinese primroses, and by November have nice fat plants in four and five-inch pots. In summer they are cared for in a north or east facing cold frame. The plants might well be in bigger pots, but we prefer these small sizes because they are so easy to handle in packing the plants for sending to town, or arranging in the greenhouse, and when it comes to making up table dishes, by turning four or five of the four-inch ones out of their pots and setting them together into a small oval table basket or dish we get as prettily filled a tray of flowers as one could wish to see. We have never had any complaints about the cut flowers "poisoning" anyone; the foliage is the offending part. The "poisoning" is simply an irritation caused by the jointed hairs on the leaves penetrating the skin, it has no serious effects like poison ivy. In the frames where the old plants are set in summer, self-sown seedlings usually come up in quantity.

The above, copied from *Gardening*, expresses perfectly our own ideas of this plant. It is a valuable one, and in ordinary cultivation there is no fear in handling it. It has caused irritation of the hands and arms sometimes when gardeners have handled large quantities of it, and especially when they have been perspiring freely. It is too good a plant to be laid aside.

Tho' a lie is very cautious
It is sometimes very blind;
When you see it out parading
There's a truth not far behind.

LATE FLOWERING TULIPS.

No flower in its season surpasses in brilliancy of color the late-flowering tulips, represented by the self-colored forms of *Tulipa Gesneriana*. It is not satisfactory to know that this splendid tulip is seldom well grown, and until quite recent years was usually kept to the cottage garden, where its great flaming flowers opened out to the sun a gorgeous mass of rich color. Of late this species has been planted in gardens, but not in a way to get the best effect from its flowers, and the public park has taught many useful lessons in the way to use such a striking and handsome bulb. During the past few days the beds of the forms of this species at Kew have made brilliant masses of color, and have furnished as great a treat to the holiday makers as the orchids. In the distance the broad beds of flowers, one kind in each bed, lit up the garden with color. It is pictures of this character that give interest and beauty to the landscape.

It is possible to use *T. Gesneriana* or some of the forms described in many ways, if the planter has a true eye for artistic coloring and contrast. Always group them, whether the bulbs are in the border or bed, and this advice applies to most things. A garden cannot be filled with glorious color and rich beauty if the plants are niggardly used. Many, one might write the majority of gardens, are quite destitute of any of

the varieties of this old-fashioned tulip, that has lived for centuries in the homely cottage plot. It is difficult to account for such apathy, complete indifference to the gold mine of lovely bulbs that carry on the season of color to the early summer days. No comparison need be made to the Dutch varieties, those that bloom in the early spring, they are of value in their time, but for beauty they are entirely eclipsed by the greater splendor of those that succeed them later in the year. There should be a great future for the self-colored tulips. A keen interest is springing up in all classes of the flower, and it is the type that remains as effective and useful as any of the race. With this alone the garden may be made beautiful in May, as many varieties differ merely in degree, and none bear nobler or richer colored flowers. When on the wane they open out wide in the sun, and seem to reflect its rays from the broad, massive segments. The growth is strong and the foliage ample, a clear silvery glaucous color, in agreeable contrast to the flowers. In every way such tulips are adapted for planting in large beds, or in some effective style, suggested by careful association of color.

Not many years ago the Parrot tulips, so called presumably from the beak-like shape of the segments, were rare. They are commoner, and let us hope will become more so as the years go by. The immense beds of them in Mr. Walker's grounds at Ham were as fine as the waving fields of narcissi. The style of beauty is different, but each in its way is beautiful. These few notes are written to bring forward a class of bulbs too rare even now, but likely, however, to take their place in enriching and beautifying the garden in the month of May.—*OBSERVER, in Gardeners' Chronicle.*

Love is the only thing man needs that he cannot get for himself.

CHILDREN'S PLAY-GROUNDS IN THE PUBLIC PARKS.—A correspondent claims that whatever may be the oversight in eastern public parks, in providing special places as play grounds for children, San Francisco cannot be classed in that list. The Golden Gate Park has set apart special quarters for that purpose. They have sheltered places, resting places, retiring places, lunch rooms, spaces for goat and donkey riding and merry-go-rounds; all are situated in a warm and protected valley, and surrounded by lawns and beautiful flower-beds. This portion of this beautiful park is among the most popular of its attractions; numbers of visitors to the park going to this particular spot, as lookers-on, enjoying the happiness which the children in their frolicsome play present.—*Mechan's Monthly.*

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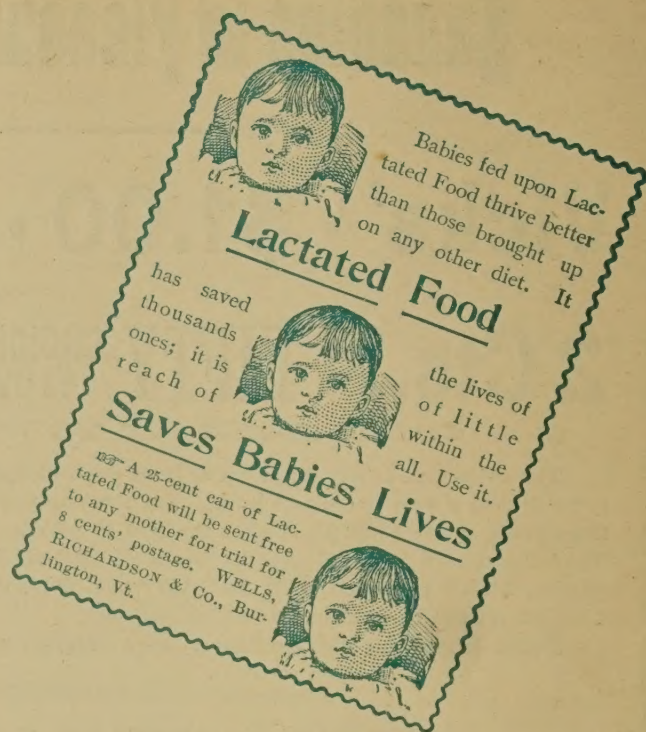
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